

Rep. Sak offered the following resolution:

House Resolution No. 406.

A resolution to memorialize the Congress of the United States to enact the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence River Basin Water Resources Compact.

Whereas, The Great Lakes are truly one of the great natural resources of our nation and the world. The Great Lakes hold nearly 20 percent of the world's and 95 percent of the nation's surface freshwater resources. The entire Great Lakes region depends on these inland seas for drinking water, manufacturing, agriculture, recreation, and shipping. Yet, despite their vast size, the Great Lakes are vulnerable to exploitation through diversions and wasteful use, placing in jeopardy the economy and quality of life of all the people, farms, and businesses that depend on them; and

Whereas, The Great Lakes-St. Lawrence River Basin Water Resources Compact would protect the Great Lakes from diversions and wasteful withdrawals while preserving the reasonable use of Great Lakes water within the region. This historic document represents a hard-fought compromise negotiated over five years by the Great Lakes governors and Canadian premiers with input from thousands of stakeholders and citizens; and

Whereas, All eight of the Great Lakes states--Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Wisconsin--have enacted the compact into state law and committed themselves to manage this critical resource in a consistent and prudent manner. Michigan has already moved forward and passed laws to completely implement the compact and created a comprehensive water withdrawal management program. However, this historic commitment will not be complete until the U.S. Congress gives its blessing and demonstrates its commitment to keeping the Great Lakes great for generations to come; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives, That we memorialize the Congress of the United States to enact the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence River Basin Water Resources Compact; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and the members of the Michigan congressional delegation.